

13 January 1972

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director for Plans
VIA : Chairman, CS Historical Board
SUBJECT : The Clandestine Service Historical Program, Status and Planning

1. Background: The CS historical program was formulated in 1964-65 by the CS Historical Board in consultation with CS components. A list of several hundred titles was drawn up covering CS organizational units at Headquarters and in the field as well as specific operations and programs. Additionally, the CS files were searched for existing papers prepared independently of the program which might properly be incorporated into the Clandestine Service Historical Paper (CSHP) series. In early 1969 the CS historical program, which up until then had proceeded on its own initiative with relative autonomy, was brought under the central direction and control of the CIA Historical Staff. On 8 December 1969 the Executive Director-Comptroller directed "that all histories comprising the 'catching up' phase - the period before 1965 - be completed no later than 31 December 1971." At that point there were 347 histories in the CS historical program of which 132 had been completed and published. The task confronting the CS during 1970-1971 was, therefore, the completion of 215 additional histories.

2. Status as of 31 December 1971: In 1970-1971 38 additional papers were published in the CSHP series to bring the total published to 170. In the course of these two years the size of the program was reduced by 46 titles from 347 to 301. Titles deleted represented subjects that did not fit into the 1945-65 time frame, those incorporated into other papers, subjects of marginal significance, etc. The unfinished portion of the program thus stands at 131. It should be noted, however, that 21 completed drafts submitted to the Historical Staff are undergoing final review, editing and typing. A few of these will probably need to

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be returned to the components for revision, correction or amplification. Other drafts are nearing completion or are being reviewed in the components and will probably be received within the next few weeks. While accurate and reliable figures are difficult to arrive at, we estimate that about 30 drafts will be ready for publication within the next two months leaving approximately 100 papers still to be done. Listings of the 170 CSHP histories published as of 31 December 1971 are attached: A. numerically and B. by component.

3. Evaluation: The CS histories vary with regard to length and quality. Some contain fewer than 10 pages of text; others run to over 1500 pages. Generally the papers are well researched and well written but some are superficial or cover subjects of relatively minor significance. Few if any of the papers qualify as "histories" in a strict sense. In general, however, they are useful compilations which serve the needs of the operating elements and will greatly facilitate future historical research.

4. The Continuing Program: Since we have now passed the deadline for the catching up phase of the historical program a re-examination of its objectives and problems and formulation of plans for the future would serve to place the program into proper context within the CS, particularly for those with direct responsibility and involvement. In the ensuing paragraphs various aspects of the program are discussed and policy recommendations are offered for DDP approval. The Executive Director-Comptroller and the Chief of the CIA Historical Staff have not yet provided guidelines for the continuing, combined Agency historical program. Any contribution we might have in their formulation would be along the lines of this discussion.

5. Objectives: The most recently approved formulation of objectives for the CS program is contained in [redacted] 1 February 1966, Handbook for the Writing of Clandestine Services History.

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"...a systematic record of the operations of the Clandestine Services...should include the development of the operational arm of the Agency, its contributions to the development of national policy, its experiences with operational and methodological innovations, and its relations with policy authorities, other agencies, and other intelligence services."

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Specifically, the CS histories serve the following purposes:

- a. As background information for Agency, CS and component management personnel to assist in the formulation of policy.
- b. As briefing, training and reference material for CS operations personnel.
- c. To consolidate and preserve source material (including official documents as well as individual experience records), which might otherwise be lost, for future histories and studies.

In our view the last item is not the least important.

6. Content: In the CS program as now constituted there is a primary emphasis, particularly in the area divisions, on organizational histories covering field stations and Headquarters components. It has been the belief of members of the CS Historical Board that such histories, particularly station histories, present unduly fragmented accounts of the CS role in world developments and that more attention should be given to detailed studies of CS involvement in crisis areas and of programs cutting across station and division lines. On the other hand, the area divisions have found the station histories of most immediate interest for reference purposes and for briefing Headquarters and field personnel.

7. Attachment C is a list containing titles of unpublished histories from the catching up program. Those we expect to publish within the next two months have been deleted and new titles proposed by the divisions have been added. Writers, where presently assigned, are identified in parentheses. Most component chiefs have expressed a desire to continue work on their portions of this program to the extent other priorities and manpower and budget restrictions permit.

8. Writers: If the CS historical program is to continue in any orderly or meaningful fashion after FY 1972, it will be necessary to acquire a cadre of qualified historical writers. These, it would seem, would have to be drawn (a) from the current Clandestine Service T/O, (b) from available annuitants or (c) from outside the Agency. In view of the straitened circumstances facing the CS it is

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evident that only rarely will capable staff employees become available for periods of sufficient duration for them to prepare units of historical papers. The practice in the past of assigning individuals who have become surplus to other CS programs to write history, regardless of their competence, is wasteful and inefficient and should be avoided.

9. The engagement of qualified annuitants on contract to prepare historical papers has much to recommend it. The cost would be relatively low, from [redacted] each per annum, over their annuities. In the [redacted] Project 25X1A2G the CS historical program has an existing mechanism to cover their funding and employment. Where the components have funds available they could continue their present practice of contracting the services of annuitants themselves. Annuitants, or any others assigned to prepare histories, should be selected primarily on the basis of their ability to write and organize material. Obviously other factors, such as direct knowledge of and experience in the subject matter, may also be considered but these should be secondary. There have been several instances of otherwise capable CS operations officers who have not been able to prepare lucid and coherent accounts of developments in which they have been directly involved.

10. Historians or historical writers drawn from outside the Agency would require extended indoctrination and orientation. In view of the recent Pentagon problems security factors involved in engaging them would need to be carefully considered. For the long range, however, some thought should be given to engaging several professional historians, who could be expected to remain 10 or 20 years with the program, to serve as writers and consultants. The JCS apparently has such a group which has functioned effectively over a period of several years. The quality of our histories cannot greatly exceed the talents of the writers and there are few individuals in the CS with the talent and interest to qualify as genuine historians.

11. Recommendations:

a. The content and scheduling of the continuing CS historical program should be flexible and subject to revision by the Board in close consultation with CS components. More attention should be given to the preparation of monographs covering significant operations, programs and episodes.

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b. The program should be open ended. It need not be completed this year or the next but as rapidly as capable, diligent writers can progress and still produce sound, readable papers. Hard and fast deadlines should be avoided; target dates should serve to keep the program moving and to assess the progress of individual writers.

c. A cadre of about 10 full-time writers should be engaged to prepare CS historical papers. This group should be composed of qualified annuitants on contract but might be augmented by staff employees and by professional historians from outside the Agency. In addition to contract writers engaged by the components, the Board should also engage historical writers to make up the authorized contract writing strength of the program.

d. The Board should be consulted by the CS components in their engagement or assignment of writers. Substantive guidance and administrative, clerical and research support should be provided by the component primarily concerned with the history. The Board should continue to provide editorial guidance and assistance and determine publication standards.



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Executive Secretary
CS Historical Board

Attachments:

Tabs A, B, and C, as stated

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ATTACHMENT BCLANDESTINE SERVICE HISTORICAL PAPERS
PUBLISHED AS OF 31 DECEMBER 1971

CSHP NO.	Title	Author	Published
	<u>OFFICE OF THE DDP</u>	25X1A	
044	The Inspection and Review Staff, DDP, October 1952- April 1959	[redacted]	Feb 68
003	25X1X4 <u>CI STAFF</u> [redacted] [redacted]	[redacted]	25X1A9A Jan 69
011	25X1X4 <u>CA STAFF</u> [redacted]	[redacted]	Nov 66
012	Covert Action Project Funds FY 64 and FY 65, Dec 47-Jan 64 (TS)	[redacted]	Nov 66
015	Funding Covert Opera- tions, 60-64 (TS)	[redacted]	Nov 66
016	Book Projects (Survey for DDP) 50-Sep 62	[redacted]	Mar 67
017	25X1X4 [redacted]	[redacted]	Nov 66
018	25X1X4 [redacted]	[redacted]	Nov 66

CSHP NO.	Title	Author	Published
	<u>CA STAFF (Cont'd)</u>		
25X1C		CA Staff	
019			Nov 66
031	Establishment & Early Development of the Office of Policy Coordination, 48-49		Mar 69
060	The Unknown Political Prisoner, A Psychological Warfare Case Study, 51-53		Nov 66
061	25X1C		Jun 67
067			Jun 67
196	The 1967 Crisis in Covert Action Operations		Dec 70
384	The 1967 Reappraisal and Readjustment in Covert Action Operations; the Katzenbach Committee Report		Jan 71
	<u>FI STAFF</u>		
161	The Foreign Intelligence Operations Group, 1945- 1965		Dec 71
213	FI Staff Handling of Relations with Department of State & with Ambassadors, 57-67, (TS)		Nov 69

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CSHP NO.	Title	Author	Published
<u>INFORMATION SERVICES DIVISION (Cont'd)</u>			
111	The Correspondence (CE) Branch, RID, 1949-66		Oct 68
159	History of the RID, the Development of the Registry Concept, 45-65		Oct 68
198	A Chronology of Events in the Records Integration Division & Its Predecessors 45-65		Oct 68 25X1A9A
199	The Development of a Clandestine Services Records Division in the CIA, 45-65		Jan 69
200	The Automation of RID, 55-65		Mar 69
218	History of the Reference Branch, RID, 45-65		Nov 69
227	The Processing Branch, RID, 45-65		Jul 70
<u>CENTRAL COVER STAFF</u>			
251	The Central Cover Staff, 1946-1970		Apr 71
<u>25X1X4 AF DIVISION</u>			
080			Apr 71
081			Oct 68
082			Mar 69

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The Ongoing CS Historical ProgramA. Overall CS Histories

2.229 History of OSO (Draft not complete; no writer) 25X1A9A
2.230 History of DDP - Dulles [] 25X1A9A
2.231 History of DDP - [] 25X1A9A
2.232 History of DDP - Helms []

B. Staff Histories

2.255 History of CI Staff (Draft by [] being reviewed in CI Staff) 25X1A9A
2.242 History of IO Division (Draft by [] being reviewed by ADDP)
Added History of PP and CA Staffs, 1952 to 1967 25X1A9A
2.149 History of FI Staff (Draft by [] not complete)
2.040 History of FI/D [] 25X1A9A
2.319 History of OPSE []

C. Division Histories

2.266 History of EUR Division
2.318 History of NE Division 25X1A9A
2.324 History of WH Division []
2.256 History of DO Division 25X1A9A
2.145 History of TSD [] incomplete draft)

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D. Station Histories (cont.)

WH 2.330
2.331
2.332
2.366
2.367
2.368
2.375
2.376
2.282

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E. Monographs, Functional and Miscellaneous Histories

MPS 2.216

25X1X4 2.220

2.304

CA 2.223

2.243
2.244
2.245
2.246
2.247
2.248

E. Monographs, Functional and Miscellaneous Histories (cont.)

FI	2.108	FI Staff Coordination under NSCID No. 5. (Draft rejected by C/CIA/IIS. In suspense)	
	2.289	FI Special Ops Group (Partially complete)	
	2.290	FI Scientific Intel Group	
	2.291	FI Intelligence Group ([redacted], nearing completion) 25X1A9A	
	Added	FI Plans	
FI/D	2.124		
25X1X4	2.132		
	2.297		
DO	2.257		
CCS	2.260		
	2.262		
	2.264		
AF	2.389		
FE	2.279		(ed)
SOD	2.104		
	2.337		
	2.338		
	2.339		
	2.341		
	2.342		
	2.343		

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